

March 12, 1984

LB 1129

commitment?

SENATOR WARNER: I assume what you have reference to is the gift to the state over \$10,000 has to have approval of the Governor which is true. This is not at that point yet.

SENATOR NEWELL: Colleagues, I just want you to know that in my humble opinion we are making a commitment here. We were unwilling to strike it. It is a nice thing when people give you something and you have then an obligation to match the money and then further, not only have an obligation to match the money, but also to keep the facility up, et cetera, et cetera. As I argued before, the Performing Arts Center is primarily intended to provide a little educational opportunity and a whole lot of performing arts opportunities for the good people of Lincoln. Now we, as the Legislature, may avail ourselves to those kind of facilities from time to time. They will be nice. I want to tell you they will be very nice but I think that if there is no obligation as Senator Warner has indicated then we ought to strike this provision from the budget. And if there is an obligation we ought to make it hurt just a little bit and that is why we ought to add a million dollars. So I urge this Legislature to add the million dollars. Let's be up front about it. We don't have to spend the money. They say if they are not ready to spend it, at least we will know that we made that obligation, that it is going to cost us. We recognize it is going to cost us. I'm not asking that the operational dollars be put in there even though I think that would be enlightening in and of itself. What we are asking for is very simply, fess up time. You don't get something for nothing. This is an opportunity to make sure that we all know that it is going to cost and I only put a million dollars in there so it doesn't hurt real bad but we know that, in fact, that is the kind of obligation we are going to have over a period of time. With that I urge the adoption of the amendment.

SENATOR KAHLE: We are voting on the Newell amendment to LB 1129. Those in favor vote aye, those opposed no. Please vote. I will give you ten more seconds.